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September 15, 2011

BY E-FILING

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

SEP 15 2011

Part of
Public Record

RE: STB Docket No. AB-415 (Sub-No. 2X)
*Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad Company – Abandonment Petition for
Exemption – Line in Ontonagon and Houghton Counties, MI,*

EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION REQUESTED

Dear Ms. Brown:

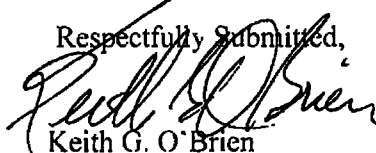
Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad Company ("ELS") hereby respectfully requests a 180-day extension of the deadline for consummating abandonment as authorized in this proceeding.

Pursuant to the decision served herein on September 27, 2010, ELS is permitted to terminate service over, and to eliminate its 43 mile rail line between Ontonagon and Sidnaw in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. As there are no remaining barriers to consummation of the abandonment, ELS would currently have to notify the Board concerning consummation of the permitted abandonment on or before September 27, 2011.

ELS is actively exploring alternative options concerning the future of the moribund line and is engaged in negotiations in that regard that are not likely to be concluded prior to September 27, 2011. Under the circumstances, ELS respectfully requests the Board extend the consummation deadline for 180 days from its current expiration date as permitted under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29(e)(2).

If there are any questions concerning this request please contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,



Keith G. O'Brien

cc: All parties of record